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Scales of pay of Telugu and Sanskrit Pandits.

* 196 Q.—Sri P. VEERABHADRASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the scales of pay of Telugu and Sanskrit Pandits working in the middle and secondary schools;

(b) when they were revised;

(c) whether the Government are aware that some municipalities have not been paying salaries according to the revised scales; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to direct such municipalities to pay the salaries according to the revised scales from the date from which they are due?

The Hon. Sri T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" (a) It is presumed that the hon. Member's question refers to pay of pandits in secondary schools under district boards and municipalities (and not to those in Government service). The revised scales of pay fixed for pandits in district boards and municipalities are:—

L.T. Grade, Rs. 70—5—140.

First Grade, Rs. 60—4—100—5—130.

Second Grade, Rs. 40—1½—70.

The posts of pandits in middle schools will be in Grade II. The existing incumbents who do not possess the qualifications now prescribed for Grades I and II will be eligible for the scale of Rs. 60—4—100 if they had been in the scale of Rs. 45—2/2—75 and for the scale of Rs. 40—1—60 if they had been in the scale of Rs. 30—2/2—50. When the second grade pandits are entrusted with teaching work in the higher forms they are eligible to draw an allowance of Rs. 10 per mensem.

" (b) Orders fixing the revised scales of pay were passed in May 1947 but the scales were given retrospective effect from 1st January 1947.

" (c) Yes.

" (d) Necessary instructions have been issued in the matter."

Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—" If the Municipalities plead poverty, may I know what is the attitude the Government are going to take?"

The Hon. Sri T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" There is no question of pleading poverty. They must pay."

Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—" The Government say they must pay increased salaries and the local bodies have no funds to pay. Are the Government aware that some of the municipalities have not paid increased salaries?

The Hon. Sri T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" It has not been brought to the notice of the Government

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that any municipality has not paid revised scale of salaries, except in the case of pandits, which was due to a misunderstanding because the salaries were under revision. Instructions have been issued that they must give effect to the scales which have already been recommended."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"If a municipality or local body pleads poverty, will the Government make good the deficit caused by the increase of salaries?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :— "If that happens, it is open to the municipalities to increase their fees."

Uncultivated lands in the South Kanara district.

* 197 *Q.*—SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM (on behalf of Sri D. Manjayya Hegde) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of acres of cultivable land remaining uncultivated in the South Kanara district;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the major portion of the uncultivated lands is found in the interior parts of the district; and

(*c*) what steps are taken to bring such uncultivated lands under cultivation?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"(*a*) There are nearly 299,368 acres of cultivable land uncultivated in the South Kanara district.

"(*b*) The answer is in the affirmative.

"(*c*) The Government have thrown open all waste lands for temporary cultivation under the Grow More Food Campaign. The cultivation is free of assessment and this exemption has been continued up to the end of fasli 1357 (30th June 1948). In certain areas, concessional rates of water-cess have also been sanctioned. Other concessions such as grant of loans on liberal terms, subsidies for sinking wells and tanks and repairing old wells and tanks, subsidised distribution of seeds and manures are also made to enable ryots to increase production of food crops by bringing more lands under cultivation. A major portion of these lands is at the foot of the Western Ghat where malaria is rampant. People generally refrain from settling in these parts on account of malaria. Recently a Malaria Research Station has been formed by the Government of India at Mundaje village, Puttur taluk, for the benefit of areca growers. It is hoped that the major portion of the uncultivated lands in the ghat regions of Puttur taluk will be brought under cultivation when malaria control measures are undertaken. The question of starting a land colonisation scheme near Bethangady, Puttur taluk, is also under consideration."